



“One of America’s Best High Schools” – Newsweek 2006
A California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Minutes of December 12, 2006

I. WELCOME:

A. CALL TO ORDER – Bud Kling

B. ROLL CALL – Bud Kling

Members Present:

Mary Red Clay	Patrice Fisher
Victoria Francis	Amy Dresser Held
Bud Kling	James Paleno
John Riley	Rene Rodman
Eileen Savage	Rosalind Wolf

Ex-officio Members:

Gloria Martinez
Patrick Kim (student)
Greg Wood

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of November 14, 2006 were approved with corrections. See final version of approved minutes on www.palihigh.org website.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- ◆ Pam Harbour – (teacher) Concerned we will not be in sync with the feeder schools if we implement the calendar change.
 - Additional concerns about the delay in the remodeling of the bathrooms in the locker rooms. She asked if LAUSD could fast track the project to get the bathrooms back in use for the students. Compared to the facilities at SanMo we are far behind. Also, inquired if the rubberized track was still being considered for installation. She indicated that she doesn’t believe these concerns are being taken seriously, but she understands that the goal is for lower class sizes first.
- ◆ Julia Rosenbaum – (parent) Concerned that the calendar change would move the winter break to one week later and it won’t coincide with the traditional break (of Revere and other LAUSD schools). She is also concerned about the impact on the sports if the school is closed.
 - She indicated she believes the calendar change was done prematurely due to the fact that there has never been an unbiased study of the cost impact. The theory about educational benefits is unfounded. Why not have more tutors or offer shop classes that will help prepare students for careers that they want to seek out. There needs to be an alternative and why not add more time to the day or winter break right before Christmas (23rd). Why not make DVD’s for the AP students to study over the break. There needs to be more compromise and do a “real” study.

- ◆ Brian O'Connell – (parent) Not all high schools on the east coast start before Labor Day. He did some research and brought and distributed a in a hand-out from a study that the State of Texas did on this issue.
- ◆ Cheryl Onoye – (teacher) She looked at the study on line and said that she found the direct source, <http://www.window.state.tx.us/schoolstart2004/taskforce/report> and that the findings actually supported the calendar change in her estimation.

III. ACTION ITEMS:

A. PROPOSED SITE SELECTION FOR POOL

- ◆ Mr. Mills, who is working on the development of the proposed Master Plan for the school's, facilities asked that when considering a site for the pool that the over all plan be looked at especially if it is trust money that is being used. He asked that the project be put on hold for a year.
- ◆ Ms. Nance responded by saying we have a timeframe in which to use the money otherwise it will be given to UCLA. Ms. Rose Gilbert is the primary donor. If the site is moved away from the gym it would double the budget. Not to mention if the pool site is moved to the north side there can't be two pools, limiting the amount of revenue that can be generated. We currently have \$1.130 million all due to donations and we need \$3.5 million. The ground breaking is slated for Fall 2008 with a completion date in one year. The first year and half is taken up with the design and development of the plans, which then has to go through the bureaucratic chain of events to be approved.
- ◆ Mr. Mills asked if the Master Plan could be shown with and without a pool.
- ◆ Ms. Held said that would be an easy fix to have the Master Plan set up with both scenarios. The Master Plan is moving forward and thanked Mr. Mills for his involvement with it. She also stated that we do have pool planners who are working with LAUSD and the architects and both parties have determined that the north side is unsuitable and the south side is the best site.
- ◆ Dr. Martinez clarified that Ms. Gilbert did say she would take the money back after three years.
- ◆ Ms. Held moved that the Board adopt the preferred site with the Master Plan language to be amended to state that this is the selected site, but to develop scenarios with and without the pool.
- ◆ Motion was second and voted on

The Board approved the Proposed Site Selection for the Pool by majority vote.

8 – yes (Ms. Patrice Fisher, Ms. Mary Red Clay, Mr. Bud Kling, Ms. Amy Dresser Held , Ms. Rosalind Wolf, Mr. John Riley, Ms. Rene Rodman, & Ms. Eileen Savage)

1 – no (Ms. Victoria Francis)

1 – abstention (Mr. James Paleno)

B. FUNDING REGISTRATION AND LODGING FOR 10 ATTENDEES TO 03/07 CHARTER CONFERENCE IN SAN DIEGO

- ◆ Mr. Wood stated that the Charter Conference is being held in San Diego this year and requested the Board to approve \$5,000 for the cost of attendance, lodging and food for 10 people. It is a three day event and there would be various workshops and vendors. Currently there are 4 administrators and 6 teachers signed up to go at a cost of \$500 / per person (registration and hotel).

- ◆ It was asked if another administrator could go as well as a parent. Ms. Rodman reiterated that it would now be \$6,000.
- ◆ Mr. Wood moved that the Board approve \$6,000 to send 12 people to the Charter Conference in San Diego.
- ◆ Motion was second and voted on

The Board unanimously approved the allocation of \$6,000 to send 12 people to the Charter Conference in March 2007 to be held in San Diego.

C. LACOE CERTIFICATE OF SIGNATURES

- ◆ Mr. Wood moved the Board approve updating the LACOE Certificate of Signatures to include Mr. Gregory Wood, Dr. Gloria Martinez and Ms. Amy Dresser Held enabling them to approve and sign contracts.
- ◆ Motion was second and voted on

The Board unanimously approved updating the LACOE Certificate of Signatures to include Mr. Gregory Wood, Dr. Gloria Martinez and Ms. Amy Dresser Held

D. 2005-2006 AUDIT REPORT

- ◆ Mr. Wood stated that this is the third time for our year end audit has been prepared by Vicenti, Lloyd & Stutzman Business Consultants and CPAs. The company monitors state requirements for charter schools and the new standard on the communication guidelines, which may be more stringent. Mr. Wood introduced Mr. Wade N. McMullen.
- ◆ Mr. McMullen read through the report stating the changes for the year and their causes. Under the liabilities the biggest increase was due to the accrued liability of STRS / PERS. The largest gain under the assets has been due to donations especially funds for the pool project. In the next report there will be more detail in the categories listed in the expense section of the report. Overall the audit report is clean, indicating PCHS is fiscally sound and meeting the requirements of both GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles) and Education Code.
- ◆ Motion was second and voted on

The Board unanimously approved the findings and acceptance of the 2005-2006 Audit Report. This report is available on the www.palihigh.org website.

E. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR / PRINCIPAL EXPENSE REPORTS

- ◆ Neither the Executive Director nor the Principal had any expenses to report this month.
- ◆ This will be a standing action item at future Board Meetings.

IV. DISCUSSION / INFORMATION ITEMS:

A. SOLAR PANEL PRESENTATION

- ◆ Three students from Mr. Engelmann's class, Evan Warfel, Joe Berman and Maor Rabizadeh gave a very impressive presentation on Solar Panels and the benefits the school would have with them. The students did extensive research on how fossil fuel is contributing to Global warming and CO₂ emissions. They researched the cost and brought in a consultant who gave a break down for the project. Currently the maximum kilowatts allowed is 300kw and it would cost \$2,555,000 to purchase and install, but after rebates and discounts the bottom line would be \$1, 694,000, saving the

school 35% in utilities a year which would work out to be approximately \$50,000 per year in savings. The panels have a 25 year guarantee and the average pay back period is 8 years. The next step would be to apply to the Department of Water and Power and to do a feasibility study. The installation doesn't really affect the day to day activities of the school and the total shut down time would be about one hour for the final connect.

- ◆ If the school elected to install solar panels then Pali would be doing its share in helping the environment. The young men appealed to the Board to consider installing solar panels and making Pali "green". The California Energy Commission approves and supports schools deciding to the school decisions on installing solar panels.
- ◆ Mr. Wood commended the students for a job well done on the presentation and said that solar panels are being considered for the pool as well. He also noted that since LAUSD controls the utilities at PCHS this proposal would have to be approved by the District with their potential participation in the funding.
- ◆ Ms. Held confirmed that the master plan for the facilities RFP includes a "green" component.

B. TRACK AND FIELD PROJECT UPDATE

- ◆ Discussion delayed until January's meeting.

C. DISCUSSION OF THE CALENDAR CHANGE

- ◆ Cameron – (student) – Stated that it is the responsibility of the Board to take into consideration the best interest of everyone.
- ◆ Patrick Kim – (student representative) – Acknowledged that the calendar change was discussed in the student minutes and at the student senate.
- ◆ Ms. Held stated that the calendar change is still being developed and finalized. It is now subject to negotiations with UTLA. She also noted that it is in the Board's power to overturn any action item voted on.

D. DISCUSSION OF THE WELLNESS POLICY

- ◆ Ms. Held stated that there should have been a Wellness Policy adopted last summer, so we are behind in completing this task. A handout was passed out to the Board members to review.
- ◆ Ms. Red Clay said schools in New York are trying to eliminate trans fats.
- ◆ Ms. Held said we are going to have the cafeteria do a mock up menu with healthier choices offered.
- ◆ Mr. Kling stated that the students must pass the fitness gram, which is not that intensive. He also stated that the fitness center is not being used to its full potential.
- ◆ Mr. Riley asked what happens to students who are obese who do not pass the fitness grams. A discussion of different obesity prevention and health promoting measures ensued including efforts to keep the fitness center open more hours and discount healthier menu items to encourage students to eat more nutritious food.
- ◆ The policy will be revised and returned to the board January 16, 2007 for approval.

E. NEXT MEETING WILL BE January 16, 2007 from 5-8 PM

V. **ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS**

A. **STUDENT REPORT – Patrick Kim**

- ◆ Holiday grams were being delivered.
- ◆ Door decorating contest was in full swing
- ◆ A two week spirit rally was being planned
- ◆ East lab is looking into ways to improve the campus.

B. **PARENT REPORT – Ms. Marci Crestani**

- ◆ We now have 800 parents receiving e-news.
- ◆ A copy of the December Pali Parent E-news was passed out.
- ◆ At the January meeting Dr. Martinez will address the topic “Parents and Teachers: Issues and Answers”.
- ◆ At the San Diego Parent Conference it was stressed that when parents are involved the students do better as well as when the parents have higher expectations of their student. They enter the learning process as a partnership then there is no blame.

C. **FACULTY REPORT – Mr. Bud Kling**

- ◆ Mr. Kling addressed the girl’s gym bathroom situation and said it is on the main sewer line and is fussed to the foundation. Ms Held stated that LAUSD is aware of the situation and that these bathroom upgrades are part of the bleacher project. A schedule was expected to be established.
- ◆ There will be a lot of “baby boomers” retiring from 2007-2008 and going back to the district to file their paperwork. After June 2008 they have to resign from the district and retire from the school. Many are wondering what the school’s plan is to assume responsibility for lifetime health benefits.
- ◆ Ms. Held noted that the budget committee is working on this issue and a taskforce has been established to address it.
- ◆ Mr. Kling said it would be nice to have that information by next fall so teachers can make a decision on what they would like to do.
- ◆ There is still the question about reduced class sizes and why can’t academic classes be taught during period seven.
- ◆ Ms. Davenport stated she has put out several notices requesting if anyone is interested in teaching a 7th period.
- ◆ Ms. Savage asked why we can’t just set a schedule.
- ◆ Ms. Held indicated a group is looking at multiple ways to reduce class size including this option.

D. **ACADEMIC PRINCIPAL’S REPORT – Dr. Gloria Martinez**

- ◆ Dr. Martinez welcomed back Ms. Rose Gilbert to work stating she returns with a clean bill of health.
- ◆ Congratulations go out to six of our seniors for receiving full four-year scholarships through the Posse Foundation (www.possefoundation.org). We send a big thank you to both the College Center and the teachers who wrote strong recommendation letters.

- Ms. Kunkel said the process starts out with 700 students' nation wide and ends up with only 40 students receiving full scholarships.
- Ms. Wolf asked if we could have the recipients talk to the 9th and 10th graders.
- ◆ 400 parents and students attended a Pyramid of Intervention Meeting on Saturday, December 2nd. Dr. Martinez shared information on the different resources Pali has to off students. Guest speaker, Mr. Richard Cohen spoke about issues parents and students face during the high school years.
- ◆ The library is now open for mandatory tutoring during lunch and seventh period.
- ◆ As a result of a 7-day program focusing on school-wide literacy sponsored by LACOE, a Literacy Academy has been formed led by teacher Anita Stephens. The academy is looking into implementing a strategic reading class for general education and special education. In addition and as a result of addressing our SMART Goals for EL and Special Education, we are looking into sheltered English classes for our EL students
- ◆ The administration will be providing a Holiday Breakfast for the Faculty and Staff to kick off the Holiday Season.

E. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Ms. Amy Held

- ◆ Ms. Held gave an update on the portables project stating that everything was on schedule to have them in by the end of winter break.
- ◆ Ms. Held and Ms. Davenport are working on a master schedule to assign the new rooms to teachers for 2nd semester.
- ◆ Both the Track & Field and Pool projects meetings are under way. It looks like there is sufficient front end money, which will help cover the cost of designing and review fees.
- ◆ The Facilities Master Plan will be drafted for proposal of pool or no pool and also to include a “green” plan to take a look at solar installation.
- ◆ Based upon the initial Actuarial Study performed that to cover cost for the Health Benefit plan we need to side aside an additional \$800k each year.
- ◆ As a result of the school visits to Helix, Granada and Poly Tech there was a debriefing meeting. It was agreed a committee needed to be created consisting of department chairs, committee chairs, Board representatives, and parents. This committee could then analyze the knowledge gained through these visits and work to develop a strategic plan for Pali.
- ◆ On the Human Resources front, a new time keeping system is being met with resistance with staff members feeling they are being singled out. They feel if staff should have to clock in then so should faculty. The advantages of such a system include less person hours manually calculating hours worked and tracking vacation and illness balances. Employees could also access their timecards electronically. It would also improve accountability. Several board members encouraged moving ahead with a new system.
- ◆ We have several staffing needs; Librarian, Counselor, AP, Tech Assistant, Nurse Assistant, Purchasing assistant, and a Human Resource point person.
 - Ms. Rene Rodman will help solicit and review proposals for HR consulting.

F. CHIEF BUSINESS OFFICER'S REPORT – Mr. Greg Wood

- ◆ Mr. Wood passed out and went over the Budget Update report stating that there are

Mandated Costs Reimbursements claims that will be filed in January 2007.

- ◆ He also noted the status of spending and revenue projection.
- ◆ Board Members noted the need for a master plan for education to make best use of the budget.
- ◆ Ms. Held said that is where the strategic planning comes into play. There will be discussion about this in the February meeting.

G. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- ◆ November Committee meeting notes were passed out for review.

VI. CLOSED SESSION:

A. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR

PCHS Negotiator: Ms. Amy Dresser Held, Executive Director
EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION: UTLA-PCHS

B. PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT

A new contract is being negotiated with the Chief Business Officer.

C. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE

VII. PUBLIC SESSION:

IF REQUIRED, PUBLIC REPORT ON ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

(Includes the vote or abstention of every member present)

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:00 PM